

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A linear motion device comprising:

- an outer member;
- an inner member facing said outer member via a gap;
- a multiplicity of balls disposed between said outer member and said inner member; and
- a plurality of spacers;

said outer member being linearly moveable relative to said inner member;

wherein each spacer is disposed between two adjacent balls and has two concave surfaces facing respectively to said two balls; and

each concave surface of at least one spacer includes a frusto-conical surface portion which, as viewed in an axial direction of the spacer, makes in line contact with the adjacent ball.

2. (currently amended) A linear motion device comprising:

an outer member;

an inner member facing said outer member via a gap;

a multiplicity of balls disposed between said outer member and said inner member; and

a plurality of spacers;

said outer member being linearly movable relative to said inner member;

wherein each spacer is disposed between two adjacent balls and has two concave surfaces facing respectively to said two balls; and

a sectional shape of each concave surface of at least one spacer is such that, as viewed in an axial direction of the spacer, the spacer is inconcave surface makes substantially circular line contact with the adjacent ballsball.

3. (cancelled)

4. (previously presented) A linear motion device according to Claim 1,

wherein said at least one spacer is an integrally formed member.

5. (previously presented) A linear motion device according to Claim 4,

wherein said at least one spacer is made of plastic.

6. (previously presented) A linear motion device according to Claim 4,

wherein said at least one spacer is made of metallic material.

7. (previously presented) A linear motion device according to Claim 4,

wherein a sectional shape of each concave surface of said at least one spacer includes a central portion substantially perpendicular to a line joining respective centers of the adjacent balls, and a pair of inclined portions extending from opposite ends of the central portion to an axial end portion of the spacer.

8. (previously presented) A linear motion device according to Claim 2,

wherein said at least one spacer is an integrally formed member.

9. (previously presented) A linear motion device according to Claim 8,

wherein said at least one spacer is made of plastic.

10. (previously presented) A linear motion device according to Claim 8,

wherein said at least one spacer is made of metallic material.

11. (previously presented) A linear motion device according to Claim 1, wherein said frusto-conical surface portion is part of a conical surface of said at least one spacer.